

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Geraldine Calvo" <gcalvo@csbps.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:07 PM
Subject: I support video description

I support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. I work with individuals every day throughout the nation who need video description implemented on schedule in April.

The inconvenience and cost of providing this service is similar to the excuse used for opposing disabled children into our classrooms during the early 1900's. Please be progressive and inclusive in your decision.

The lives of many of our older adults are connected to the world through TV media. To many, this is their only means of keeping in touch with the world they once knew and the world they once saw. Many seniors in our country who have visual impairment cannot leave their homes and rely on news, sitcoms and daytime shows as their source of important information and stimulation. Television dialogue alone is not comprehensive enough to fully inform them and convey the programming's message.

Thank you for your consideration and for supporting those who supported you many of the policies we take for granted today.

Geraldine Calvo
Vice President, Marketing & Communications

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted
Promoting independent living through rehabilitation services, products,
information, and education
9709 Third Ave NE #100
Seattle, WA 98115-2027
ph 206.525.5556
fax 206.525.0422
www.csbps.com (homesite)
www.sightconnection.com (store)

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Elmer J Norris" <eenorris@zianet.com>
To: <Info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:47 PM
Subject: I support video description

Charles, as requested here is my contribution.

The communications industry's claim to social responsibility is a travesty, in my opinion. Their self regulation in the matter of show ratings is so poor that it is almost unrecognizable.

In the matter of video description, the attempt to delay implementation is clearly financially motivated and the job of the FCC is to see that social responsibility is maintained.

Many of the blind and visually impaired people of New Mexico will benefit from the availability of video description.

Sincerely, Elmer J. Norris, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Council of the Blind of New Mexico

Edith and Elmer Norris P E

1200 19th Street, Alamogordo, NM88310

or 88310-5615 ph (505) 437-1415

Happy to be dds for the Lord

dds=dessert dwellers

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Jim Breene" <jim.breene@juno.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:09 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

To: The FCC

I support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. I need video description implemented on schedule in April.

Thank you for sticking with the original date for implementation.

Respectfully,

**Jim Breene
630 Plainview Rd. SE
Adairsville, GA 30103**

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Lori Miller" <twilight2@kconline.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:01 PM
Subject: I support Video Description

I fully support video description. It has enriched the lives of so **many** people who are **blind** or visually impaired. There is a huge need **for more** video description and we need more access to it.

Lori M. Miller

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <doc@telerama.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:37 PM
Subject: I support descriptive video.

To the secretary of the F C C,
Russ Dougherty
176 McAdam Avenue
Washington, Pa. 15301

I object to the to the request of the movie, cable, and broadcast industry to their asking to get off the hook.

I am making reference to docket MM 99-339.

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Lan Nguyen" <lnguyen@csbps.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:32 PM
Subject: I support video description.

I support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. I need video description implemented on schedule in April.

Lan Nguyen

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Robert Cotner" <bcotner@thegrid.net>
To: <info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:29 PM
Subject: I suppoert video description

To: Mr. William Canton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th St SW
Washington, DC

Reference MMDocket no.99-339

I object to any staying of implementation of the video description rule. The industry was already granted an extension. It is unworthy of an industry which argues that it is "socially responsible".

Yours truly,

Robert Cotner

P.O. Box 933

Grover Beach, Ca., 93483

cc: Charles Crawford, Executive Director
American Council for the Blind
1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 1004
Washington, DC 20005

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Deann Marsh" <dmars@csbps.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:20 PM
Subject: Descriptive Video Services

I instruct clients with vision loss towards independence with activities of daily living, including leisure activities. I support video description by informing clients of DVS services.

Deann Marsh,
Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <wclement@dejazzd.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:13 PM
Subject: I support video description

26 February 2002

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

I write this letter to you in support of the April 2002 implementation of the video description rule (MM Docket no. 99-339). I vehemently oppose efforts by the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Cable Telecommunications Association, and the Motion Picture Association of America to stay the implementation of the rule until after the court appeal is decided.

To deny the blind and visually impaired people of this country their right to access information available to those of us who are sighted is an outrage. They are no less significant **than** any other American in their quest for fair treatment. I urge you to take a moment, and reflect **upon** how your own life would be affected, were you denied the right to the information the movie, cable, **and** television industries provide.

Please consider the impact the stay would have on the blind and visually impaired. They have been denied what most of us simply take for granted for far too long.

Sincerely,
Wendy W. Clement
33 Thresher Court
Lititz, PA 17543

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Julia Chappell" <Jilua1@msn.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:03 PM
Subject: I support video discription

Julie

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Royal Hargrove" <royalhargrove@prodigy.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 6:03 PM
Subject: I SUPPORT VIDEO DESCRIPTION

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Debi Martin" <debim@jacksonesd.k12.or.us>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:59 PM
Subject: I support video description

2/26

Dear Sirs,

This is a request to provide continuing **support** for video description. As a teacher of the visually impaired, I have seen first-hand the benefits of this service. Video description **opens up** a new dimension of enjoyment for the blind and low vision **population**.

Thank you,

Deborah Martin

Teacher of the Visually Impaired

Klamath Falls, OR

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Max Duckler" <max@captionmax.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Cc: <max@captionmax.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:56 PM
Subject: I support video description

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339.

Dear Secretary Caton,

I am writing to voice my strong objection to the National Association of Broadcaster's (NAB) and NCTA's request to stay the implementation of the video description rules.

I am a member of the NAB, and this is not a representation of my opinion.

It would be a huge leap backwards for the rights of the blind and low vision citizens of this country to deny them participation in what has become the overwhelming medium of our culture, television.

The initial requirement is a very small and affordable requirement. And while I respect the fact that a lawsuit has been filed, and arguments are to be heard in September, it would be a big mistake to stay this requirement just because there is a pending court case. If we were to change rules every time a lawsuit was filed, there would be no rules, ever. This request for a stay is important and the precedent setting that it would create would have bigger ramifications.

I urge you to deny this request in the name of the millions of Americans who would lose access.

Sincerely,

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "The NEWKS-Bill" <pfflnewks@attbi.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:54 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

The FCC should not delay their video description order. Video description should be implemented on schedule in April.

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Ron Marriage" <marriage@seidata.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:51 PM
Subject: I support video description

To Whom it may concern:

I support video description.

I support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. I need video description implemented on schedule in April.

Ron Marriage

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Ron Marriage

Home Page <http://www.seidata.com/~marriage/>

Blind Links <http://www.seidata.com/~marriage/rblind.html>

Linux <http://www.seidata.com/~seilug/>

Email <mailto:marriage@seidata.com>

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July 3 - 9 -- for details go to: <http://www.nfbk.org>

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Douglas Gerry" <DGerry@aagi.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:45 PM
Subject: I support video discription

Please add me to the list of people who do want and support the mandate of video description.

Douglas

Douglas Gerry
Western Sales Manager
ALVA Access Group
(510) 451- 2582ext. 106
1 888 318 2582 ext. 106
douglas@aagi.com
www.aagi.com

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "james hooper" <jameshooper@earthlink.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:43 PM
Subject: I support vidiol!

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Fran Osborn" <Fran.Osborn@tcb.state.tx.us>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:29 PM
Subject: i support video description

The FCC should not retreat from implementing video description in April

2/27/02

Douglas E. Hall
1405 Edgewater Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-5859
Home Phone: (386) 255-0377
Work Phone: (386) 239-6000
E-Mail: fl_halls@juno.com

February 25, 2002

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 29554

Reference MM Docket Number 99-339:

I applaud the Federal Communications Commission for issuing rules to mandate the availability of descriptive video services by movie producers, major cable systems and national broadcasting networks. Please resist the industry's attempt to delay or scuttle implementation of this important rule!

As you are already aware, those of us who are blind or visually impaired are frequently excluded from fully enjoying or benefiting from movies and cable/broadcast media. As a blind person, I would appreciate being able to know what is on the screen of a movie or my television. As an administrator of Florida's Talking Book Library and a consumer advocate, I hear from blind and visually impaired people that they no-longer enjoy movies or television because they have trouble following what is on the screen. Unfortunately, much of what is on the screen is visually based (emergency messages, contact information and significant actions), so those of us who cannot see or who have difficulty seeing are excluded.

It is too bad that the movie, cable and television industries fail to understand or that they are just not socially responsible. It is unfortunate that they must be forced to do what is right and fair, that is make their products fully available to ALL people. Instead of spending millions of dollars fighting our right to have more equal access, I suggest that the money would be better spent if the industry would use it to comply with the FCC's rule. Besides, the industry's image, which has become quite

tarnished by their actions, might be improved if they demonstrate a social conscience.

Sincerely

Doug Hall

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Doug E. Hall" <fl_halls@juno.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:10 PM
Attach: fcc docket #mm99-339.doc
Subject: Fw: I Support Descriptive Videos, 2

Please forward the attached letter on to Mr. Caton of the FCC and anyone else who needs to read it.

Thank you for your interest and continued advocacy.

Doug Hall

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "david weddle" <ddweddle@earthlink.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:36 PM
Subject: I support video description

I strongly urge the FCC not to retreat from its video description order. I need video description implemented on schedule in April. The deaf and hard of hearing have closed captioning. Why shouldn't the blind enjoy the same access to television programming?

David E. Weddle
4058 Moore Street
Los Angeles, CA 90066-5118

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <ChasNwags@aol.com>
To: <Info@acb.org>
Cc: <rick@rickboggs.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:16 PM
Subject: I support Video Description

Charles W. Pehrson
5354 Yarmouth Ave. #26
Encino, CA 91316

February 26, 2002

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 15th Street, SW
Washington, DC 29554

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339.

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to you in support of Descriptive Video Services and vehemently object to the request of the movie, cable, and broadcast industry to stay the implementation of DVS on April 1, 2002.

It is a great shame to the entertainment industry to deny the blind and visually impaired community this right, given that the industry prides itself as being socially responsible to the public. Blind and visually impaired people all over the country have waited since the issuance of the order to finally have access to television programming. By taking that away from them, the networks send the message that they are apathetic to the needs of the blind, thus further contributing to decades of discrimination towards this community.

I wholeheartedly support the FCC's DVS order, and hope that you will not back down and allow the entertainment industry to manipulate the legal system in its favor once again.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Pehrson

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Win & Carol Pehrson" <autograf@wctatel.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:12 PM
Subject: I support video description.

To the Secretary of the FCC,

In regards to docket number 99-39 whereby the National association of Broadcasters, the National Cable telecommunications Association and the Motion Picture Association of America have filed a petition to stay the implementation of the video description rule until a court appeal is decided; this borders on the obscene. When companies can afford to pay out \$million per actor per show such as "Friends" and "Fraiser" or similar salaries to various movie stars, Julie Robertson, Mel Gibson, Tom Hanks, to mention just a few, or check out the amounts paid for cable rights.....These companies certainly can and SHOULD pay for the right of blind people to enjoy the products they produce FOR ALL THE PUBLIC. We already have caption TV. for the hard of hearing. To deny the blind equal rights is just plain WRONG. Please pass this regulation. It is ONLY for 50 hours of video described programming per calendar quarter, that is about ONLY 4 hours a week. Are not the visually impaired entitled to AT LEAST THAT???

Carol & Win Pehrson
114 Winnebago Way
Forest City, IA. 50436

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Ann Hammersly" <ahammer9@cox.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:03 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

As a high school physics teacher who has taught a few blind students over the years, I am outraged that there may be a stay of implementation of descriptive video. This is so obviously a need for the visually handicapped that I am surprised that anyone could be BLIND enough not to see it!

Ann Hammersly
Chaparral High School
Scottsdale AZ

2/27/02